

Summary of presentation by Walter Reid during October 27, 1999, CRI workshop:

Puget Sound Salmon Leaders Workshop

- Goals/description/participants
- Willingness of the region to work to actually recover the listed populations.
- Likely outcomes; short-term & long term
 - Continuing forum; Goal setting working group; etc.
- Key Science/Policy issues
 - What's the goal? (And, how do we measure progress?)
 - What is the best way to achieve the goal?
 - What is the highest priority for allocating limited financial resources?

Recovery Goal: why is it important?

- Government and private individuals can't commit to open-ended action; they (their constituencies) need to know what 'success' is.
- Enables priority setting and planning

Where does this stand

- NMFS committed to establishing delisting criteria for PS by Aug. 15, 2000
- Co-managers have already set goals for most watersheds and will release them in Jan.

Goal setting: Counter-arguments

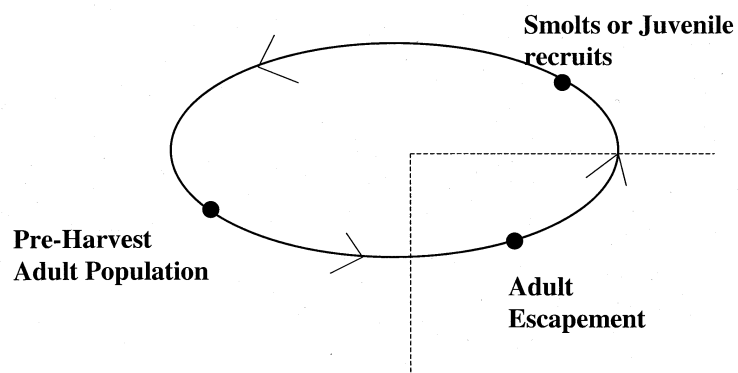
- Recovery isn't the only game in town: also interest in "certainty" with respect to take prohibitions. Don't need a goal for that
 - Properly functioning habitat everywhere all the time
- "Our scientists" tell us that when the goal is set we'll still need PFHEATT, so is it even necessary?
- Don't want to get into the numbers game. We are looking for healthy ecosystems supporting healthy populations of fish.

De-listing criteria

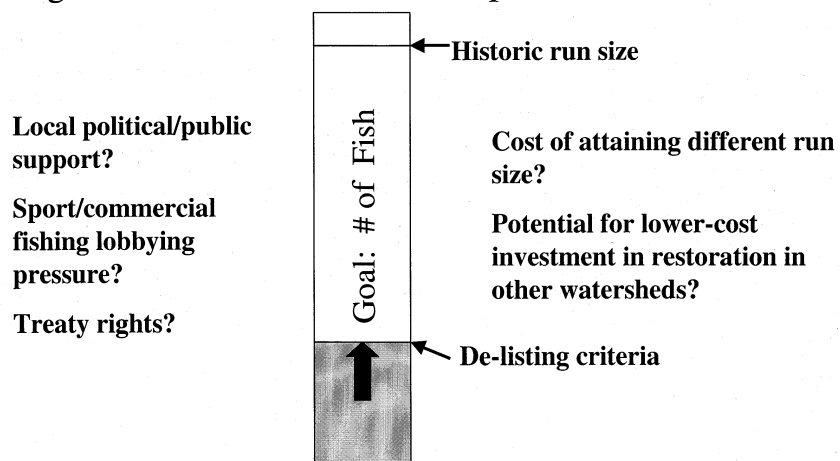
Do these include sustainable harvest?

De-listing criteria

- Do these include sustainable harvest?



The goal that matters will be the one that local governments and citizens adopt as their own.



Goal Setting Process

1. Release ESU delisting criteria and specify population ranges for individual watersheds.
 - Do some PR to make point that these aren't the recovery goals, but simply what NMFS will look at to determine whether the species is out of threat
 - Keep these strictly science,
2. Engage with co-managers and local communities in the actual goal-setting process.
 - Science should be providing (through CRI etc.) information on types of actions (and costs) will be options for meeting various harvest+escapement goals being explored
3. Once watershed goals (milestones/targets) are set for various watersheds, NMFS should determine whether in the aggregate these will at least achieve the delisting threshold.
4. Translate these goals into short term performance measures
 - habitat productivity, recruits, IBI
 - What can a politician take credit for in 3 years? What can people use to hold them accountable? What is scientifically defensible?

Recovery planning process

- Scientific Uncertainty
 - Don't hide it
 - Present findings with clear statement of uncertainties (and information on 'risk' associated with incorrect choice).
 - It is a policy decision what level of risk to accept, not a science decision.
 - The PUBLIC should hold policymakers accountable for unwise decisions but they need the information to do that.

IPCC First Assessment Report

Fundamental physics	Virtually Certain
Greenhouse gases increasing because of humans	VC
Full recovery will require centuries	VC
Large stratospheric cooling	VC
Global mean surface temp/precip increase	Very probable
Rise in global sea level	Very probable
Local details	Uncertain
Tropical storm increase	Uncertain
Details	Uncertain

What the public/decision makers should hear

- We estimate with 90 percent confidence that an increase in productivity of 50% could be achieved by an increase of [low water flows] [spawning habitat in forested lowland reaches] [wetland area] [whatever] by 10 to 20%

What the public/decision makers do hear

- Federal scientists agree that [whatever] will be sufficient to protect salmon runs in this habitat.

Recovery Planning Process

- Scientists need to be able to provide input that will help policy makers weigh options for recovery.
- Scientists should not choose the options or "write the recovery plan".
- Explore the use of experiments in PS to reduce uncertainty

Science Coordination

- NMFS Recovery Team
- NMFS Cumulative Risk Initiative
- Wild Salmonid Policy
- Limiting Factors Analysis
- Technical Advisory Groups
- Scientists involved in 4(d) negotiations
- State Independent Science Panel
- SRF Board Science Panel?
- State and Tribal agency biologists
- FACET, INROADS, Salmon Library, SSHIAP

Coordination essential for:

- Goal setting
- Input to recovery planning
- Helping to determine priorities for project funding
- Developing information system(s)

What will make Puget Sound salmon recovery science most effective from a policy perspective?

- Strictly scientific de-listing criteria
- Clarification of PPHEATT vs. recovery Assistance in analyzing options for how to achieve goals.
 - Clear public statements of uncertainty and risk
- Performance measures that make sense to people and make sense scientifically
- Coordination
- Coordination